

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# **Legislative Record**

**SPECIAL SESSION**

**JULY 22, 1940**

**SENATE**

Tuesday, July 23, 1940.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend H. E. P. Pressey of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

**Orders of the Day**

On motion by Mr. Owen of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the table An Act to Incorporate the Oak Grove School (S. P. 771) tabled by that Senator on July 22, pending assignment for second reading; and on further motion by the same Senator the rules were suspended and the bill was given its second reading and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

The **PRESIDENT**: Is there further business to come before the Senate?

Mr. **SPEAR** of Cumberland: Mr. President, as apparently there is no business at this time before the Senate and at two o'clock fast time this afternoon, I understand that there is to be a hearing in the Hall of Representatives at which Mr. Redman will appear and as there are some orders and bills now being prepared and discussed, I move that the Senate recess until 3 o'clock, Eastern Standard Time this afternoon.

The motion prevailed.

**After Recess**

The Senate was called to order by the President.

From the House, out of order:

Bill "An Act Providing for Improvement in Military Preparedness." (S. P. 750) (L. D. 1244)

(In the Senate on June 7th passed to be engrossed and sent down for concurrence.)

(In the House on June 7th, passed to be engrossed in concurrence.)

Now comes from the House, indefinitely postponed.

In the Senate:

Mr. **MARDEN** of Kennebec: Mr. President, inasmuch as the contents of this measure have been acted upon at a previous special session, I move that this matter be

indefinitely postponed in concurrence.

The motion prevailed.

From the House, out of order: "Resolve Providing for Additional Police Facilities." (S. P. 765)

(In the Senate on June 27th, passed to be engrossed and sent down for concurrence.)

(In the House, on June 27th, passed to be engrossed in concurrence.)

Now comes from the House, having failed of final passage.

In the Senate on motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland the bill was indefinitely postponed.

**Communication**

(Out of Order)

**STATE OF MAINE  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

Augusta

July 23, 1940

To the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House:

I herewith transmit a proposal from Honorable Percival P. Baxter, offering to donate further acreage of land for State Park purposes at Mt. Katahdin.

This communication is accompanied by a proposed Act accepting the gift of said land.

Respectfully submitted,

**LEWIS O. BARROWS**

Governor. (S. P. 772).

Which was read and ordered placed on file.

Sent to the House.

**Communication**

(Out of Order)

To Honorable Lewis O. Barrows, Governor, and the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Eighty-Ninth Legislature:

On the second day of February 1935 and on the seventh of January 1939, I donated and conveyed to the state of Maine as trustee in trust certain lands in townships three (3) and five (5), range nine (9), W. E. L. S. Piscataquis County (Mt. Katahdin) and these gifts were accepted by the eighty-sixth Legislature Private and Special Laws of Maine 1933 Chapter three (3) and by the eighty-ninth Legislature Private and Special Laws of Maine Chapter one (1) approved by the Governor February ninth, 1933 and January nineteenth 1939 respectively.

As I now desire to donate and convey to the state in trust an additional area of approximately four thousand one hundred seventy-four (4,174) acres being a portion of the southeast one-quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of township three (3), range ten (10), to be held forever in trust for state forest, public park and public recreational purposes I have prepared an Act of Acceptance of the said land and request your Excellency and your Honorable Bodies to approve and accept this gift and conveyance to the state of Maine as trustee in trust for the people of Maine.

The land now offered to the State of Maine in township three (3), range ten (10) is located at the base of, and on the westerly slopes of Mt. Katahdin. On this area there has been erected a number of camps, Adirondack lean-tos, fire-places, lunch shelters and other structures for tourists and mountain climbers. This area of approximately four thousand one hundred seventy-four (4,174) acres is the most frequented section of the Katahdin region for the ascent of the mountain over the Hunt Trail starts therein at this camp site on Katahdin Stream and the Millinocket-Sourdunahunc road passes through this one-quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of the township.

You will be interested to know that the land already donated to the state and the land already acquired by me to be donated to the state from time to time now totals approximately seventy-four thousand and five hundred thirty-three (74,533) acres and I shall not consider my Katahdin project completed until at least one hundred thousand (100,000) acres have been acquired by me and donated to the state for public park, forest and recreational purposes.

In conveying these lands to the state of Maine a definite trust is created and I have the utmost confidence that the word of this sovereign state as given by the Chief Executive and by the chosen representatives of the people of Maine never will be broken and that this state never will violate the trust provisions under the deeds it accepts from me.

I now submit this Act of Acceptance to your Excellency and to your

Honorable Bodies and ask for its passage and approval.

Respectfully,

PERCIVAL PROCTOR BAXTER  
July 22, 1940. (S. P. 773).

Which was read and ordered placed on file.

Sent to the House.

Mr. HILL of Cumberland: Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate.

The PRESIDENT: Is it the pleasure of the Senate that the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Hill, be granted unanimous consent to address the Senate? Hearing no objection the Chair understands that unanimous consent is granted.

Mr. HILL: Mr. President, every member of this Senate has long been familiar with the successive public benefactions of our generous and distinguished former governor, Percival P. Baxter. As the years elapse I believe that more and more the people of Maine will come to take pride in the Baxter State Park at Mt. Katahdin. The people of Maine, I think, will gain an increasing appreciation as time goes by of the vision and foresight of the donor of these lands. Governor Baxter has now, as the communication read by the Secretary indicates, brought to completion another step in the creation of this Park. The state of Maine now has the opportunity to accept this additional grant of some 4000 acres of land, accepting at the same time the responsibility of the trust that goes with it to preserve to posterity, the rugged grandeur and the wild beauty of the region of Katahdin.

So, Mr. President, I deem it an honor to ask unanimous consent for the introduction of bill An Act Accepting from Percival Proctor Baxter the Conveyance and Deed of Gift of 4,174 acres of land in Piscataquis County.

Unanimous consent for the introduction of the bill was granted; and on motion by the same Senator, under suspension of the rules, the bill was given its two several readings and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

### Order

(Out of Order)

On motion by Mr. Hill of Cumberland, out of order and under suspension of the rules, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring,

that in order that the records of the gift by Percival P. Baxter, to the State of Maine as trustee in trust of approximately 4,174 acres in Township 3 Range 10 W. E. L. S. Piscataquis County, Baxter State Park, be completed and in enduring form, the communication dated July 28, 1940 addressed by said Baxter to the Hon. Lewis O. Barrows, and to the Hon. Senate and House of Representatives together with the message of Governor Barrows transmitting the said communication to the legislature, be printed in the laws of Maine for 1939-40.

Mr. BURNS of Aroostook: Mr. President, I have in my hand an Act for the Registration of Veterans' Graves and I ask that unanimous consent be granted by the Senate for the introduction of this bill at this time. In explanation of my remarks, Mr. President, I will say that several months ago I stood here and asked the Senate for unanimous consent for the introduction of a similar bill which was granted, which bill had to do with the registration of veterans' graves. This bill is a counterpart of the former bill and it simply continues the work that was done during the last fiscal year so that it will continue during the fiscal years of 1940 and 1941. This bill, like the other bill, provides that the State of Maine appropriate \$5,000 from the general funds for this purpose. The federal government, if we appropriate \$5,000, will appropriate \$80,000 which is in the ratio of sixteen to one.

I feel with this money spent in the state of Maine, with the citizens or residents of the State, ex-service men having preference, that considerable employment will be given to this class of people during the fiscal year of 1940 and 1941. Those who would care to examine the records of this work during the past few months will see that the employees under the act are not all ex-service men. There is a sprinkling of these ex-service men in the work, and the work is such that it does not require a great deal of physical capacity. Consequently, those interested have been able to

assign this work to veterans and white collar workers of the citizens of the State who through various reasons, health or other reasons, are unable to carry on vigorous manual work.

The purpose of this work has been explained to the Senate heretofore and it is not necessary for me to go into that at this time. Suffice it to say it is to mark the graves of veterans, whether World War, Civil War, Spanish American War, Mexican War, Revolutionary War, War of 1912 or Indian Wars. A great deal of good work has been done and it has given employment, and we get a ratio of sixteen to one from the federal government, and I feel we should carry on this work.

In conclusion, I wish to say that at the convention of the American Legion last June this resolve was passed, "Be it resolved by the Department of Maine American Legion in annual convention assembled, that it recommends the appropriation by the State of Maine of such additional funds as may be required to match federal funds in completing the graves registration project now under way and progressing successfully under the joint sponsorship of the State of Maine and the Works Projects Administration of the Federal Government."

Mr. President, I ask that this bill be received by unanimous consent.

Thereupon, unanimous consent was granted for the introduction of Bill, An Act for the Registration of Veterans' Graves; and on motion by the same Senator, under suspension of the rules, the bill was given its two several readings and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

The PRESIDENT: Is there further business to come before the Senate?

On motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at nine o'clock, Eastern Standard Time.